



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

May 5, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD  
HARBOR BOULEVARD WILDLIFE UNDERPASS PROJECT  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4  
3 VOTES**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve the project and adopt the plans and specifications for Harbor Boulevard Wildlife Underpass, in the City of La Habra Heights (4), at an estimated cost between \$850,000 and \$1,000,000.
2. Instruct the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to advertise the project upon receiving notification from the Acting Director of Public Works that authorization to advertise has been received from the California Department of Transportation.
3. Instruct the Executive Officer at the Board of Supervisors to seal and return the plans and specifications to Public Works for filing.
4. Authorize the Acting Director of Public Works to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsible and responsive bidder within or less than the estimated construction cost, to approve the Faithful Performance and Labor and Material Bonds submitted by the contractor, and to deliver the project.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

This action involves contracting for the construction of a multi-plate corrugated steel underpass, retaining walls, portland cement concrete v-ditch, and splash wall; the installation of an irrigation system and landscaping; and other appurtenant work.

Animals, such as coyote and deer are currently being struck and killed by vehicles traveling on Harbor Boulevard. The County and the Puente Hills Landfill Native Habitat Preservation Authority (Habitat Authority) propose that the construction of a wildlife underpass would provide safe passage for wildlife. The underpass would act as a habitat linkage and reduce potential vehicle/wildlife conflict on Harbor Boulevard.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This action meets the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Community Services by connecting the wildlife corridor that is bisected by Harbor Boulevard. The project would enhance the wildlife environment while helping to reduce vehicle/wildlife conflicts.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The estimated construction cost is in the range of \$850,000 and \$1,000,000.

This project will be constructed at no cost to the County. This project will be completed as a Federal-aid project utilizing Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and Statewide Transportation Enhancement Activity (STEPA) grant funds. The entire cost of the project will be financed with these MTA and STEPA grant funds and local matching funds. The Habitat Authority will be responsible for financing the local matching funds.

The construction cost of the project is currently estimated to be \$967,418. Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2004-05 Road Fund budget, which will be reimbursed by the aforementioned grant funds and Habitat Authority local matching funds.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The enclosed plans and specifications include the contractual provisions, methods, and material requirements necessary for this project. The contract agreement will be in the form previously approved by County Counsel.

Federal Highway Administration procedures prohibit advertising any project in which they participate in the cost prior to the administering agency receiving authorization to advertise.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the project specifications stating that the contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

On November 9, 2004, Synopsis 29, your Board approved the Negative Declaration for this project.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

This project will be contracted on an open competitive bid basis. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder meeting the criteria established by your Board and the California Public Contract Code.

To increase contractor awareness of our program to contract work to the private sector, this project will be listed on the County website for upcoming bids.

The project specifications contain provisions (1) requiring the contractor to comply with the County's Child Support Compliance Program, (2) requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees, (3) requiring the contractor to comply with the requirements of the County's Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, and (4) requiring the contractor to comply with the Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law).

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The project specifications also contain a provision that, should the contractor require additional or replacement personnel to fill employment openings, consideration shall be given to hiring qualified participants in the County's Greater Avenues for Independence or General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs.

On December 19, 2000, your Board adopted a program for the use of small minority and women-owned businesses on federally funded highway construction contracts. Companies meeting these requirements are certified by the State as Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs). To be eligible for award of this contract, bidders must subcontract at least 10 percent of the work to DBEs or demonstrate a good faith effort to meet this goal.

To ensure that the contract is awarded to a responsible contractor with a satisfactory history of performance, bidders are required to report False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, their civil litigation history, and information regarding prior criminal convictions. The information reported will be considered before making a recommendation to award.

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The project is to be completed in 80 working days. It is estimated that the work will start in August and be completed in November 2005. Local residents and businesses will be informed that traffic and local access will be mildly disrupted during the construction.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Please return one approved copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE  
Acting Director of Public Works

CQ:mh

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance